



## 4. The Plan

The Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan (FPHCP) is a programmatic plan. Unlike most habitat conservation plans that are developed by single landowners for small to moderate forestland holdings, the FPHCP is based on Washington's Forest Practices program and covers nearly 9.1 million acres of primarily non-Federal and non-tribal forestland and thousands of forest landowners across the state. Forest practices include activities conducted on forestland and related to growing, harvesting or processing timber. Activities include road and trail construction, final and intermediate harvesting, pre-commercial thinning, reforestation, salvage of trees and brush control.

The FPHCP is based on Washington's Forest Practices program and consists of two parts—an administrative framework and protection measures (Figure 4.1).

The *administrative framework* supports the development, implementation and refinement of the Forest Practices program. Its participants include the Forest Practices Board, the Department of Natural Resources, the Forest Practices Appeals Board (FPAB), forest landowners, cooperating agencies and organizations, and the general public (Figure 4.1). Section 4a describes the administrative framework and its components.

*Protection measures* include all forest practices laws, rules and guidance designed to minimize and mitigate forestry-related impacts and conserve habitat for covered species (Figure 4.1). The protection measures are presented as two separate but interrelated conservation strategies.

- The first is the *Riparian Conservation Strategy*. It includes protection measures implemented in—and adjacent to—surface waters and wetlands. Examples include wetland and water typing systems, channel migration zones and wetland and riparian management zones. The protection measures that form the Riparian Conservation Strategy are described in Section 4b.
- The second is the *Upland Conservation Strategy*. It includes measures that protect the habitats of covered species by minimizing and mitigating upslope forest practices impacts. This strategy includes protection measures related to unstable slopes, road construction, maintenance, and abandonment and rain-on-snow. The protection measures that form the Upland Conservation Strategy are described in Section 4c.

The approach to habitat conservation under the FPHCP includes the development, implementation and refinement of Washington's Forest Practices program through the collaborative efforts of program participants (Figure 4.2). The laws, rules and guidance designed to minimize and mitigate forestry-related impacts and conserve habitat for covered species form the protection measures that represent the foundation of the program.

# Forest Practices Program

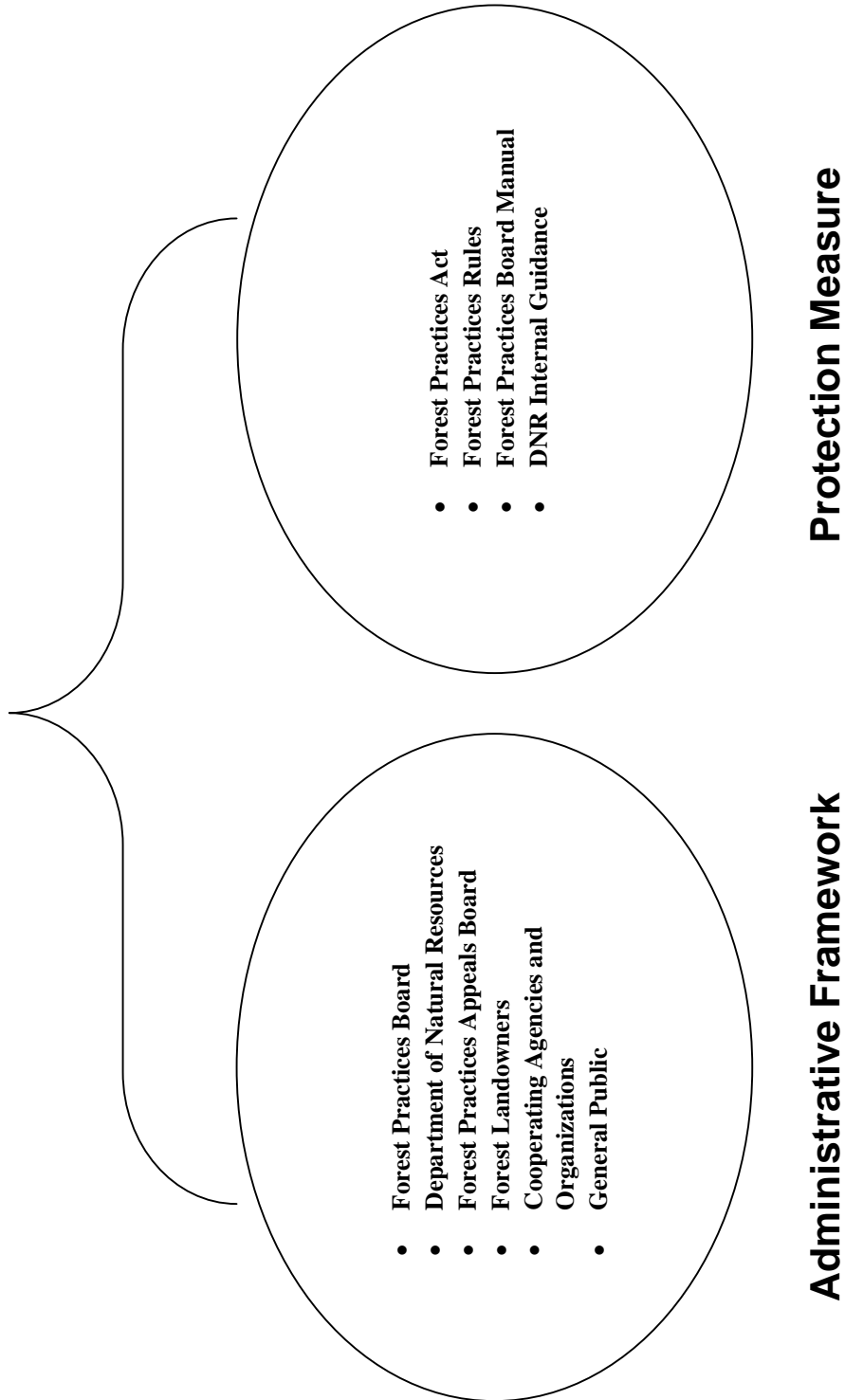
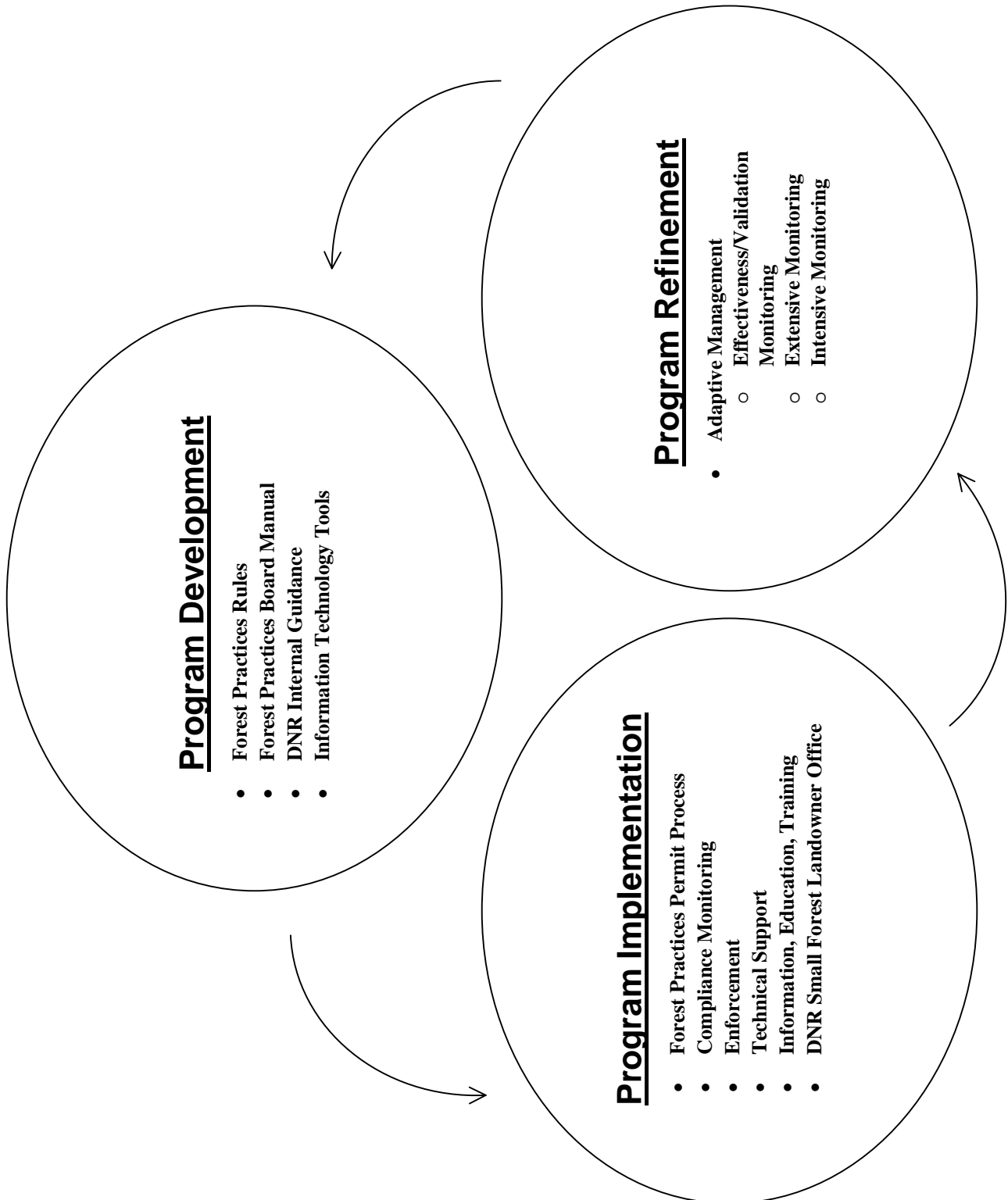


Figure 4.1 Structure of Washington's Forest Practices program and the programmatic Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan. The program is made up of two parts: 1) an administrative framework that consists of multiple participants who work collaboratively to develop, implement and refine the program; and 2) protection measures that include the laws, rules and guidance related to aquatic resources.

**Figure 4.2 The approach to habitat conservation under the Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan involves the development, implementation and refinement of Washington’s Forest Practices program.**



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